be appointed as the Agent or Sub-Agent of the State Government to purchase raw cashewnuts. Therefore, NAFED can not procure raw cashewnuts from cashew growers of Kerala.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Desiltation of Rivers

2370. SHRI SURYA NARAIN YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rivers in respect of which desiltation work was undertaken during 1990-91;

(b) whether the desiltation work was undertaken in respect of rivers in Bihar during the said period; and

(c) if so, the names of such rivers and the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Desilation work for Navigation purposes have ben undertaken on rive Ganges and Brahmaputra during 1990-91.

(b) Desiltation work on river Ganges in the Ballia-Patna and Patna-Farakka reaches were undertaken for maintaining a depth of 1.5 metre to 2 metres of water in the channel during the year 1990-91.

(c) In the Farakka-Patna stretch dredging at 3 critical snoals and bandalling at 11 shoals were carried out while in the Patna-Ballia stretch bandalling was carried out at 4 shoals.

Safety Measures for Coal Mine Workers

2371. DR. G.L.KANAUJIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to chalk out any plan for the safety of tha coal mine workers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B.NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b): To ensure safety of coal miners, the mines are run strictly as per provisions of Mines Act, 1952 and tha rules and regulations framed thereunder. In addition thereto there is a regular system of monitoring & review of the safety situation through Pit Safety Committee at Unit level, Tripartite Committee at tha Area & Company level, Safety Boerd at Coal India & Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines at Government level. Workman Inspector's are appointed in all mines, who report to the management and to the Director General of Mines Safety. The miners are provided with intrinsically safe electrical appliances and other safety gears to work with. The Coal Companies also implement the recommendations/guidelines laid down by the periodical Safety Conferences for Improving safety in mines.

Centrel State Farm Suratgarh

2372. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land under the Central State Farm, Suratgarh;

(b) the profit/loss made during last two years by the Farm; and

(c) the area of land lying uncultivated during last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Total area of land of Central State Farm, Suratgarh is about 6293 hectares.

(b) The Farm has earned profits during the year 1989-90 and 1990-91 as per details indicated below;

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	*Amount*
1989-90	95.85
1990-91	29.22 (Tentative)

(c) The required information is as under:

Year	*Area in hec.*
1989-90	Kharif (279) Rabi (903)
1990-91	Kharif (3968) Rabi (818) (*Tentative*)

[English]

Production of Lignite and Leco in NIC

2373. DR. P VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of Lignita and Leco in Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NIC) and their selling price per tonne;

(b) whether there is any shortfall in their selling price as compared to coal according to their calorific value; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government te increase their price?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) The production of lignite and Leco during 1990-91 and in the first seven months of the currant year 1991-92 (from 1-4-91 to 31-10-91) is as follows:

(in Lakh tonnes)

Year	*Lignite*	*Leco (Coke)*
1990-91	117.59	2.55
1991-92 (upto end Oct.91)	74.87	1.59

The selling price as on 29-11-1991 is as under:-

Raw Lignite	Rs. 410/tonne
Leco	Rs. 1,900/tonne

(b) and (c): No, Sir. The relative calorific value of coal is taken into account while fixing the price of Lignite and Leco. In fact, the selling price of Lignite and Leco is higher than the landed cost of coal if taken only in calorific terms. The price of raw lignite was revised from Rs. 325/tonne to Rs. 410/tonne only in October, 1991. The price of Leco was revised to Rs. 1900/tonne from Rs. 1750/tonne in May, 1991. There is no justification, therefore, or need to further increase the prices at the moment. However, the market conditions and the relative price of coal is constantly monitored and as when these change, appropriate action for revising the price of Lignite and Leco would be taken.